

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 070533
ORIGIN SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 STE-01 /017 R

DRAFTED BY A/SY/OPS/T:B C RUNNER:JW
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A/SY/OPS/T - C PELCZYNSKI
OPR/ST - E BALDRIDGE (SUBS)
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SY/OPS/FO/ARA, OPR/ST/S

-----054596 191209Z /15

R 182316Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, ASVP

SUBJECT:1969 CHEVROLET FULLY-ARMORED SY VEHICLE - GUATEMALA

GUATEMALA AND SAN SALVADOR FOR RSO; PANAMA FOR OIC/RTC,
RSS; FROM SY/OPS/T

REF: (A) GUATEMALA 1529; (B) 77 STATE 98280; (C) 77 STATE
173398

1. DUE TO MECHANICAL CONDITION OF THE 1971 CHEVROLET
FULLY-ARMORED SY VEHICLE AT AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR, THE
1969 CHEVROLET SY VEHICLE WILL HAVE TO REMAIN AT SAN SAL-
VADOR UNTIL A NEW SY FULLY-ARMORED VEHICLE IS RECEIVED.

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PAGE 02 STATE 070533

ESTIMATE ARRIVAL TIME IS LATE MAY 1978. DUE TO VEHICLE AGE,
PRESENT MECHANICAL CONDITION, AND THE AGE OF THE TRANS-
PARENT ARMORING SYSTEM, SUBJECT VEHICLE SHOULD NO LONGER
BE CONSIDERED CAPABLE OF PROVIDING THE BALLISTIC PROTECTION
FOR WHICH IT WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED. THE VEHICLE WILL NOT
BE TRANSFERRED TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.
A/SY RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE DISPOSED OF AT SAN SALVADOR

FOLLOWING RECEIPT THERE OF THE NEW FULLY-ARMORED VEHICLE.

2. FOR GUATEMALA: AS PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED IN REFTELS (B) AND (C), SUGGEST POST IMMEDIATELY SUBMIT REQUEST TO

OPR/ST FOR NEW OPR-FURNISHED COM VEHICLE. UPON RECEIPT OF REQUEST AND JUSTIFICATION, OPR/ST WILL COORDINATE WITH A/SY/OPS/T TO PROVIDE A COM VEHICLE WITH CUSTOMIZED TRANSPARENT ARMORING SYSTEM IN APPROXIMATELY SIXTEEN WEEKS.

3. FOR MANAGUA: COM VEHICLE CURRENTLY LOCATED AT POST HAS HARDENED ALUMINUM ARMORING MATERIAL INSTALLED IN DOOR PANELS AND BEHIND SEATS. WINDOW AREAS HAVE LEXAN PANELS INSTALLED ON THE INTERIOR. THIS ARMORING SYSTEM WILL PROVIDE PROTECTION AGAINST 9 MM SUBMACHINE GUN THREATS. A/SY/OPS/T IS IN THE PROCESS OF PROCURING A CUSTOMIZED TRANSPARENT ARMORING SYSTEM FOR THE 77 MERCURY MARQUIS COM VEHICLE. SYSTEM WILL BE SHIPPED TO POST IN APPROXIMATELY SIXTEEN WEEKS FOR INSTALLATION BY SEABEE MECHANICS FROM RTC PANAMA. SPECIFIC SHIPPING DATA WILL BE FORWARDED BY SEPTTEL WHEN AVAILABLE. VANCE

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